Saudi Crown Prince Ordered Jamal Khashoggi’s Murder

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Tony Odarg February 27, 2021

You may recall the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in a Saudi consulate in Turkey in 2018. The CIA had already concluded, and common sense dictated, that the crown prince was behind the order to kill the journalist.

> The conclusion that the prince approved an operation to kill or capture Khashoggi, a critic of his authoritarian consolidation of power, was based on what intelligence officials know about his role in decision-making inside the kingdom as well as the involvement of one of his key advisers, Saud al-Qahtani, and members of his protective detail, according to the report. Officials also factored in the prince’s past support for using violent measures to silence dissidents abroad, the report said. As Democrats in Congress clamored for aggressive action, the State Department responded by announcing visa restrictions on 76 Saudi individuals involved in threatening dissidents abroad. “As a matter of safety for all within our borders, perpetrators targeting perceived dissidents on behalf of any foreign government should not be permitted to reach American soil,” said Secretary of State Antony Blinken. Once in office, Biden has said he would maintain whatever scale of relations with Saudi Arabia that U.S. interests required. He also ordered an end to U.S. support for the Saudi-led bombing campaign in Yemen and said he would stop the sale of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia. He’s given few details of what weapons and support he meant.

Khashoggi was a well-known Saudi dissident and a critic of the royal government. But due to Trump's business ties in Saudi Arabia and his uniquely extreme Zionism, the Saudis being supporters of Israel, he bucked the clear implications of the crown prince in the murder. Biden has promised to cool ties with the government, no doubt in response to enormous anti-war leftism in his party. These people have correctly pointed out that America has been funding Saudi Arabia's genocide in Yemen, a position which is not exactly moral high ground for the unipolar global power. While one may not care about dead brown people thousands of miles away, and I certain don't vis a vis dead White people here at home, it is a sign that American militarism is in decline and will increasingly come under more and more scrutiny. Biden has been a warhawk his entire career, but as Obama did, I expect him to scale back the intervention and milk the remaining credibility America has on the world stage in order to manage a declining empire. Even if you are diffident on the question of justice for a journalist half way around the world you don't know, you should care if you anti-war, as it will further cement the argument made by those who rightly conclude the liberal American empire to be a great force of evil. And to that empire, I say without hesitation and great joy in my heart: good riddance!

Links

Jamal Khashoggi: US to release report on Saudi journalist murder
BBC: https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-56193263
Archive: https://archive.vn/Tbcl4

U.S. Intelligence: Saudi Crown Prince Approved Operation To Kill Jamal Khashoggi
NPR: https://www.npr.org/2021/02/25/971215788/biden-administration-poised-to-release-report-on-killing-of-jamal-khashoggi
Archive: https://archive.vn/Hpcw5

Thread: https://twitter.com/NBCNews/status/1365367863943565318
Archive: https://archive.vn/KPUDw

New public report to blame Saudi crown prince for 2018 killing of Jamal Khashoggi
NBC: https://www.nbcnews.com/news/all/new-public-report-blame-saudi-crown-prince-2018-killing-jamal-n1258800
Archive: https://archive.vn/obkTg

US implicates Saudi crown prince in journalist's killing
AP: https://apnews.com/article/us-saudi-crown-prince-khashoggi-killing-26c37f6d603737de7509f5ee09ae7f9d
Archive: https://archive.vn/AmsF6

Chairman Schiff Statement on Release of Report on Jamal Khashoggi's Murder
House Intel: https://intelligence.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=1117
Archive: https://archive.vn/Deyuj